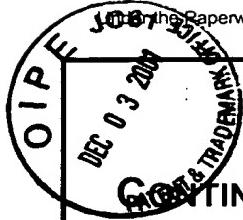


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PTO/SB/30 (5/2000)

Approved for use through xx/xx/xxxx. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE1616715-000000
12-26-01

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Express Mail No.	EL 340 684 933 US
Application Number	09/426,792
Filing Date	10-22-99
First Named Inventor	Dennis T. Mangano
Group Art Unit	1614
Examiner Name	P. Spivack
Attorney Docket Number	9114-004-999

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 7-5-01
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

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01 FC:216 200.00 CH

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. Applicant claims Small Entity status, see 37 C.F.R. § 1.27
- c. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150:
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e), estimated to be \$ 370.00
 - ii. Extension of time fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17, estimated to be \$ 200.00 for a 2 month extension, the request for which is being made herewith
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Rahul Pathak For: Samuel B. Abrams (Reg. No. 30,605)	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,983
Signature		Date	December 3, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or by facsimile transmitted to fax no. 1-703-_____ to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

Name (Print/Type)	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)
Signature	Date